The Park Avenue Synagogue

Bulletin

Affiliated with The Jewish Theological Seminary and United Synagogue of America

From the hearts of all of us
deeply we mourn
the loss of our beloved

Rabbi Milton Steinberg

March 20, 1950

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PARK AVENUE SYNAGOGUE

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SAcramento 2-8765

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SIMON NOVECK, *Associate Rabbi*
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March 24, 1950

Dear Member:

Due to the great tragedy which has befallen us, many of our scheduled activities have been postponed and the regular issue of the Synagogue Bulletin will not appear. We are all mourners and in consonance with Jewish tradition all social activities for the next thirty days have been cancelled.

However, Passover, the great festival of freedom is almost upon us and according to Jewish law it is forbidden to mourn on a holiday. We must make our preparations for the festival as usual and observe the holiday as best we can. Moreover, our cultural program must continue. In fact, we must redouble our efforts and consecrate ourselves with greater loyalty and determination than ever before to those activities that meant to much to Rabbi Steinberg. I am therefore writing to you so that you will know what we are planning for the next thirty days. Please read through this letter and resolve to participate in as many of these activities and services as you possibly can.

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Junior League Sabbath: Next Friday night March 31, the Junior League of our Congregation will participate in the service and conduct a symposium discussion on the theme: "The Responsibility of Jewish Youth to the Synagogue and the Responsibility of the Synagogue to Jewish Youth." Participants in the service will be Harold Kurte and Estelle Cross. Those who will take part in the symposium will be Judith Klenert and Robert Barzilay and Louis Heller. I hope that you will come to this service and encourage the young people of the Congregation to maintain their interest in Jewish life.

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Passover Services: Passover begins next Saturday evening April 1 and continues for eight days until Sunday evening April 8. Services will be held each evening at 6 P.M. and each morning at 9:30 A.M. On Sunday April 2, Monday April 3, Saturday April 7 and Sunday April 8, I hope to deliver a series of Passover sermons. However, as you can all readily understand, I have as yet not had a chance to work out the titles of the sermons to be delivered.

On Sunday April 8 the Yizkor Memorial services will be recited. I am enclosing a card for your convenience. If you desire to have the name of your departed memorialized during the service, please fill out the card and mail it back immediately to Mr. Rosenthal at the Synagogue. The following then, is the schedule of services:

Saturday,	April 1	-	6:00 P.M.
Sunday,	April 2	-	9:30 A.M.
Sunday,	April 2	-	6:00 P.M.
Monday,	April 3	-	9:30 A.M.
Friday,	April 7	-	6:00 P.M.
Saturday,	April 8	-	9:30 A.M.
Saturday,	April 8	-	6:00 P.M.
Sunday,	April 9	-	9:30 A.M. Yizkor Memorial Service

Please note that on Friday evening, April 7, there is to be an early service rather than the usual late Friday evening service.

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Passover Preparations: This year, Erev Pesah comes out on the Sabbath, and the preparations to welcome the holiday, are to be different than in any other year. We, therefore, offer here a few suggestions for the special occasion.

1. The ceremony of Bedikat Homez (removal of Homez) is to take place on Thursday night; and the burning of the Homez is to take place on Friday morning not later than 11:00 A.M.

2. On Friday morning at 11:00 A.M. the house should be cleansed of all the Homez; except the food left for the Friday night meal.

3. On Friday night, whether one has a Pesah meal or a Homez meal, Mazah may be served.

4. On Sabbath morning, one may eat Homez until 10:00 A.M. No Mazah is to be eaten in the morning.

5. The regular Sabbath meal at noon, must be a Pesah meal, and no Mazah is to be served.

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Men's Club meet April 4: Mr. Joseph Howard Katz, president of the Men's Club has informed me that the cultural and philanthropic aspect of the Men's Club activities will not only be continued but efforts will be made to have the Club play an even greater role in the life of the Synagogue than it has in the past. At the April meeting Dr. Milton Helpern of the Congregation will be the guest speaker on the subject

"Some Interesting Cases of Homicide"

I hope to be able to deliver a monthly review of the Jewish news as has been customary, at these meetings. May I urge all the men to make every effort to attend.

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College Seminar Meets April 6: Prior to our tragedy, the College Seminar -- a group of some twenty local college students and recent college graduates, which meets every other Sunday, had invited all of the boys and girls of our congregation who are attending out of town colleges to a semi-cultural, semi-social gathering, in the Vestry of the Synagogue. This meeting will be held as scheduled and instead of the social part of the evening, I shall lead a discussion on the books and writings of Rabbi Steinberg. All the young people of college age or recent graduates who were students of Rabbi Steinberg are particularly urged to attend.

Sabbath Study Circle: Are you free on Saturdays between five and six o'clock? A group of us have decided to meet each Saturday at that time for Mincha and Maariv services and for a discussion of the Ethics of the Fathers. This tradition of a Sabbath study circle and a regular Minyan is a very important one and I hope that more and more of you will find the time to participate.

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Sisterhood Meets April 18: Mrs. Juliet Levin, President of the Sisterhood and Mrs. Helen Wimpfheimer, chairman of the program committee, have informed me that plans are underway for a special program based on the books of Rabbi Milton Steinberg for the next meeting on April 18. More details will be communicated to the membership of Sisterhood in the near future.

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The next few months our Congregation will be undergoing a supreme test. Will the teachings of Rabbi Milton Steinberg continue to be effective in our lives now that he is no longer with us? Will the beauty of his character, his goodness and devotion, his tolerance and selflessness, his love of Judaism and his fellow man — will they continue to inspire us to greater efforts on behalf of Judaism, this Synagogue, Israel and the American community? This is the challenge which faces us - a challenge to us as human beings, as Jews and as a Synagogue. If there is any way in which I can be of help to you in the coming months, please do not hesitate to call on me. My home phone is Tr 9-0842, and the Synagogue phone is Sa 2-8765. I hope you will feel free to call on me.

Faithfully yours,

Simon Noveck